

THE FITZROY VASES.

What I am about to relate is absolutely true. It has never appeared in print before, and it is a necessary change in names and locale, leaving the facts exactly as they were detailed to me by one personally interested in the story.

In a rambling old rectory in the Midlands there had stood for more than a century a vase—no, not a vase—adorned or valued by the owner—dusted by the sacrificial hands of every church housewife, and carefully enough unbroken during that long period of time. There were quantities of china lying about and ranged along the walls, apparently of equal or greater value. The place was a vast china warren, why, no one seemed to know.

At the end of forty years the rector, who had a more dignified ecclesiastical title as well, died. Like Mr. Bardell, "the gliding animal," he disappeared from the world—and left his china behind him.

The rector left two sons, Robert and James Fitzroy. The property was divided pretty evenly between the two, except that to Robert, the elder son, the furniture, pictures, plate and china. Before the final settlement, however, James Fitzroy said to Robert, I have a fancy for those two vases out in the hall—more for said vase than anything else.

To which Robert replied with generous more conspicuous than discrimination.

All right, I don't care about them. You may have them, with such discrimination. The incident, which seemed to both trivial enough, did not dwell in the minds of either of the brothers, and the vase was sold to a professional dealer and farmer by preference, took his spool away. The vases were placed in the drawing room where his wife, partly because her husband from old associations attached value to them, dusted them daily.

One day a lady of the acquaintance called at the Biers. After the usual platitudes about the weather and the dullness of the season the lady, who had been in the search of a new subject, the inaptitude of one's friends sometimes gets worn threadbare under discussion in the country and violent of forts after novelty have to be resorted to. The errand guest lighted on the strange vases, and the quest was at once over.

Oh, what lovely vases! Where did you get them, Mrs. Fitzroy?

They came from my husband's father-in-law. They were not in the room when you called last, Mrs. Hemming?

No, I am sure they were not. I do admire them tremendously, don't you? Here the visitor crosses the room to inspect the delicate vase, which followed her more easily imagined than described.

I like them very well, replies the hostess, unappreciatively, but I have seen a great many vases that I liked better.

The visitor returns to her seat, but can not keep her eyes and thoughts from the object of her admiration.

A week or so later Mrs. Hemming calls again. This time she is accompanied by Lady Sarah Mordaunt, who is unknown personally to Mrs. Fitzroy.

My husband, Mr. Fitzroy, is a very nice man, but I am sure you will find him a little stiff. He is a little stiff, but I am sure you will find him a very nice man.

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on all hands. Jew and gentile for once had found a subject on which they could agree.

Mr. Fitzroy was perfectly bewildered and ran considerable risk of being reduced to the condition Somerset had suggested previously. The latter was an old hand, came to his rescue.

Don't be a fool, Fitzroy. If they are so friendly, let me telegraph him. He would have taken twenty pounds for his chances from that day's sale with cheerful alacrity.

Mr. Fitzroy was looking very white. The sudden turn affairs had taken was almost too much for her.

Don't faint, my dear, remarked her husband. The advice was needed. She felt very like it. But woman's buttress, curiosity to see the end, sustained her.

On the steps of the hall the barrier would have taken twenty pounds for his chances from that day's sale with cheerful alacrity.

There was a pause. Then, amidst loud applause and great excitement, to which it may be imagined the Fitzroys were not wholly insensible, the vase was placed before Mr. Wood.

Gentlemen, we know next to nothing about this china which stands before you and which you have just testified your approval of. We cannot give you its detailed history. All we know is that these vases have been hidden away in a country of the least of the world.

Another round of applause greeted the conclusion of this short speech. The bidding began. Mr. and Mrs. James Fitzroy stood in the corner. Mr. Wood, the auctioneer, was active.

It is against you my lord, the auctioneer remarked quietly.

The hint was taken, and the bidding began again.

Fifteen hundred guineas. An unanswerable argument, the hammer fell. The vase was sold.

It reads like a romance, yet happens to be perfectly true.—London World.

FASHION'S FANCIES.

Course straw bonnets, draped with coarse lace, are a new fancy.

Brooches of translucent enamel in the form of mythological heads are in vogue.

The trimmings are cord passementerie, in the two colors of the stripes of the skirt.

Many new shades appear in street gowns, intended to match the costumes with which they are to be worn.

Very elegant brocade moires are woven upon a ground of glass moire, these show brilliant changeable tints.

What are known as laburnum hats are of black lace, with yellow laburnum drooping over the high crown.

Real wheat is used to a considerable extent on the new bonnets, for making the bonnet itself as well as for trimmings.

Wraps of the dress material are frequently made up this season, and in the form of cases they are heavily braided.

Five small ribbon rosettes, eura, red, red, light brown, brown and pink, were used as trimmings upon a single bonnet.

An odd piece of jewelry is a brooch in the form of a gold mine, studded with diamonds and having a harness of oxidized silver.

As a variation in the combination costume, instead of a figured material, a plain one of the same color and of a contrasting color, is used.

Wash dresses for little girls are sometimes made with full skirts and belted waists, with a pair of feet attached and tucked down the front and back.

Pretty costumes have skirts of striped silk with a polka-dot of cashmere, the latter draped in four points or opened in front or at the back.

Small black mantles of tulle, silk or velvet, with cashmere, trimmed with metallic cord passementerie, are worn with dresses of all kinds.

Gloves having wide bands of stitching, with contrasting color, are still in vogue, nevertheless the plain styles are again as desirable as ever.

Scotch gingham for frocks for even the tiniest girls are chosen in large plaids and wide irregular stripes. Plain colors are also made up for their use.

Velvet ribbon in rows makes pretty borders for skirts of shepherd's check wools, challis or India silk, now being made up for misses, summer dresses.

ODDS AND ENDS.

Customer: "This stuff is not fit for hogs to eat."

Waiter: "All right, sir. Don't eat it."

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and my little brother, of course.—Grip.

Wife—before we were married you didn't think I was a woman.

Husband—Surely, you don't mean to say, my dear, that I stayed much at home then?

Grocer—You say that your wife, Uncle Rastus, supports the family by taking in washing?

Uncle Rastus—Yes, sah.

Well, don't you feel a little bit ashamed in washing?

"Shame!" No, sah; dere's nothin' degrading about takin' in washin'.

They were sleighing. Can you drive with one hand, Mr. Sampson?

O, yes, he replied, but I think it looks better to drive with both.

Perhaps it does, she said in a cold, convincing tone of voice, and then added, We must be gone long now, Mr. Sampson, mamma will be anxious.—New York Sun.

First Dame—How is your husband's business prospering?

Second Dame—He doesn't like me to ask him questions about his affairs, but I know he's getting awfully rich.

Think so?

Oh, he's got so now that he wears the same suit of clothes all the year round.

Miss Laura, said the young man smiling, may I ask you why you have that strange thing about your finger?

That string? said the lovely girl, putting it on my finger to remind me, my dear, of my poor memory, Mr. Van Perkins—What are you going already? I am so so so.—The Beacon.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

At a meeting of the directors of the State Board of Trade, it was decided to begin active operations on Friday, May 15.

Dr. John A. Mead of Rutland has been appointed one of the managers of the Hampshire Historical Society.

Meas. E. T. Healey, F. K. Haven, John H. Connelly and Geo. F. O. Kinn had of Venness recently bought 12 acres of land at Deatur, Alabama, for \$6000.

Col. E. K. Sibley, a native of Westford, of the banking firm of Marquand & Harney of New York, has been elected a director of the Missouri Pacific rail road.

Evening Star Lodge No. 37, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Newport on April 19, with five charter members and 21 new members, 17 taking the various degrees.

ALL THE BEST DRESS STORES and Dealers, sell Hop Compound—a Spring Tonic for old and young. Price 50c per bottle.

The centennial of the town of St. Albans occurred July 28, and the question of appropriately celebrating the anniversary is being agitated by the citizens of the town.

The Mechanics' Band of West Randolph has been engaged as "First Brigade Band," and will furnish music for the annual muster of the Vermont National Guard.

President W. L. Burnap and Secretary C. S. Forbes of the State Republican convention, it is expected that Gov. Foraker and other speakers of national reputation will be there.

Invitations are out for a golden wedding to Mr. and Mrs. Deacon John Hull of Ludlow, on May 3.

Mr. and Mrs. William Deavit of Waterbury, celebrated the fifth anniversary of their marriage on Monday.

Edward J. Snowworth of Rutland was tried at Wallingford, Saturday for violating the Prohibition law and fined \$344 on 40 counts. He was supposed to be an upright young man.

The annual report of the Vermont insurance Commissioners shows the business of foreign insurance companies done in the State for the year ending December 31, 1897, to have been as follows: Fire companies, risks written, \$28,583,815.31; premiums received, \$28,583,815.31; losses paid, \$22,128,445.00; net income, \$6,455,370.31; losses incurred, \$21,134,448; life and other companies, amount of policies \$3,180,165.70; losses paid, \$2,850,571.01; premiums received, \$3,180,165.70.

BY THE FIRST OF MAY

You will be in full enjoyment of what is called spring frolic, unless you forego it by taking a little of Hop Compound. That drives away the tired, languid feeling so common in the spring. It is the best spring medicine known.

Bishop William Taylor of the Methodist Church in Africa arrived at New York Monday to attend the General Conference of the Church.

Secretary Whitney has written a letter to a Congress in favor of the establishment of a naval reserve.

Congressman Dingley exposes the failure of the statement that three-fourths of the men employed on New England fishing vessels were foreigners.

By the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, elasticity of hair, buoyancy of spirit, and the bloom of health, may be restored to the system which has become clogged with disease. The best vital and blood purifier is Ayer's Sarsaparilla, sold by all druggists. Price 81c.

The Chicago bakers went out on a strike Sunday morning, and at night had induced the bakers to comply with their demands.

Six men and two boys left New York in a yacht some time ago in quest of big game. They were at the Central American. They got no treasure, were shipwrecked on their return voyage, were picked up and returned home penniless.

The French Canadians who went to Washington to invite the President to visit Nashua in June think he will accept and afterwards go the White Mountains.

Chung Sing, a Chinaman, was received into membership in the Immanuel Baptist church of Chicago Sunday evening.

A reform is called for in the matter of school book prices. All books are kept up too near old prices, and the worst of all is the expense falls on those who are the least able to bear it. There ought to be some way of breaking the school book monopoly. Why should not the State select the best series and print them at cost?—Pittsburgh Republican.

A paper out west says: "Working with shotgun against the sparrow tribe is like trying to bail out Lake Michigan with a teaspoon," but that "if the great American pie water could be inoculated with a taste for sparrow potpie the doom of the objectionable bird would be sealed."

The conduct of Mrs. Conking during the illness of her eminent husband is loudly extolled by newspaper correspondents in their references to her because of the devotion and self sacrifice manifested by her in caring for the illustrious senator. This is all right but there is one thing to be remembered, namely: That all over this broad land are wives and mothers whose lives are a constant round of forgetfulness and sacrifice for the welfare of their husbands.

Neither the medicines prescribed by physicians, nor any of the remedies advertised for the cure of Dyspepsia, helped her, until she received the dose of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. "Three bottles of this medicine," she writes, "cured me."

John Gennadius, Greek Minister to this city, has been elected to the Greek Consulate in New York.

Ex Senator Patterson of Hanover has accepted an invitation from the New Hampshire Historical Society to deliver an oration June 21st, at Concord, on the centennial anniversary of the adoption of the Federal Constitution by that State.

Mr. Chauncey M. Depew carries \$500,000 on his life amounting in all to \$5,000,000. Wampanag, the great merchant of Philadelphia, is insured for half a million, but Mr. Hester of patent medicine fame, carries no less than \$750,000.

W. Irving Bishop, the noted mind reader, is now an inmate of a private asylum in San Francisco. He went to California several months ago, and he is said to be suffering from insanity.

His nervous prostration compelled him to go to a sanatorium, where he will probably be compelled to remain for several months.

Lord Augustus Loftus is to receive an increased pension. The Queen is pained to think that her former representative in Vienna should be reduced to keeping a bonnet shop.

The National Zeitung gives the details of the late Emperor William. The Emperor left a fortune of 24,000,000 marks. Of this sum 3,000,000 marks is bequeathed to Empress Augusta and 1,000,000 each to the Grand Duchess of Baden, the Crown Prince and Crown Princess and Prince Henry. Prince Henry also receives an estate which was purchased for him for the sum of 1,000,000 marks by the late Emperor. A clause which was inserted in the will in the Emperor's sixtieth year gave to Empress Frederick 375,000 marks and to the Grand Duchess of Baden 250,000 marks. The Crown Prince received 1,000,000 marks, and the remainder is absorbed in various bequests.

The friends of the Copyright bill are somewhat discouraged at the progress of the debate upon that measure. Objections are constantly made from the Democratic side. The bill is expected to pass the Senate.

The Senate Committee on Finance is strongly opposed to the proposed new fractional currency on the ground that it is a very expensive luxury.

A report is in circulation in Washington that Secretary Fairchild intends to call in the money loaned to national banks in order to force them to sell their bonds, which are deposited to secure the Government against loss on these loans.

The Secretary of the Treasury accepted yesterday \$600,000 registered 4 per cent. at a discount of 125.

Many new young men are coming to any family, in Dr. Kaufmann's book on diseases; finely illustrated plates from life; don't be humbugged, but cure your family. Send three cent stamps for postage to A. P. Ordway & Co., Boston, Mass., and receive a copy free.

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We can furnish a fire proof, or a fire and burglar proof safe combined, in any size, from the smallest to the largest made, at prices as low as those given by any reputable manufacturer.

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We have a small household and office safe especially intended for the use of farmers, lawyers, doctors, postmasters, small storekeepers, justices, retired business men and families. It is a jewel. Call and see it.

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JOHN V. HALL. EDWARD J. HALL.

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Of Emmetsburgh, Iowa.

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Paid in, 600,000

7 PER CENT. GUARANTEED MORTGAGES

RECEIVED ONLY BY THE LAND upon which money is loaned, but by the entire capital and assets of this company, guaranteeing prompt payment of principal and interest. Also, a PER CENT. GOLD DEBTENTURE BONDS.

MORAL: Insure at John V. Hall & Son's Agency.

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SHOWING WHY THE COOLEY CREAMER

IS USED BY THE PREMIUM BUTTER MAKERS.

It makes More Butter. Why it makes Better Butter. It makes More Butter. Why it makes Better Butter. It makes More Butter. Why it makes Better Butter.

It is Absurd

For people to expect a cure for Indigestion, unless they refrain from eating what is unwholesome; but if anything will sharpen the appetite and give tone to the digestive organs, it is Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Thousands all over the land testify to the merits of this medicine.

Mrs. Sarah Burroughs, of 268 Eighth street, South Boston, writes: "My husband has taken Ayer's Sarsaparilla, for Dyspepsia and torpid liver, and has been greatly benefited."

A Confirmed Dyspeptic. C. Canterbury, of 141 Franklin st., Boston, Mass., writes, that, suffering for years from Indigestion, he was at last induced to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla and, by its use, was entirely cured.

Mrs. Joseph Aubin, of High street, Holyoke, Mass., suffered for over a year from Dyspepsia, so that she could not eat substantial food, became very weak, and was unable to care for her family.

Neither the medicines prescribed by physicians, nor any of the remedies advertised for the cure of Dyspepsia, helped her, until she received the dose of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. "Three bottles of this medicine," she writes, "cured me."

Ayer's Sarsaparilla, PREPARED BY Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Price 81c; six bottles, \$5. Worth 60c a bottle.

D. H. COLVIN'S POULTRY YARDS!

Washington, Mass., 20 cents for a setting of 13 eggs, delivered. Bennington, August 1898.

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We can furnish a fire proof, or a fire and burglar proof safe combined, in any size, from the smallest to the largest made, at prices as low as those given by any reputable manufacturer.